

HEASLIP, THOMAS GORDON

EARLY LIFE

Oct 10, 1868

1871 Census

Age 3

Born in King Township to Benjamin and Philadelphia (Lloyd) Heaslip.

Lived in King, Ontario with Benjamin Heaslip (head of house – father, age 47), Philadelphia Heaslip (mother, age 36), Joseph Heaslip (brother, age 12), William Heaslip (brother, age 10), Benjamin Heaslip (brother, age 8), Alice Heaslip (sister, age 7), Merab Heaslip (sister, age 5), Amos Heaslip (brother, age 4), Elma Heaslip (sister, age 2) and Philadelphia Heaslip (sister, 5 months).

1881 Census

Age 13

Lived in King, Ontario with Benjamin Heaslip (head of house – father, age 57), Philadelphia Heaslip (mother, age 46), Joseph Heaslip (brother, age 23), William Heaslip (brother, age 21), Benjamin Heaslip (brother, age 19), Alice Heaslip (sister, age 18), Merab Heaslip (sister, age 16), Amos Heaslip (brother, age 15), Elma Heaslip (sister, age 12), Philadelphia Heaslip (sister, 10 years), Elwood Heaslip (brother, age 8), Harlena Heaslip (sister, age 4) and Georgina Heaslip (sister, age 2).

1891 Census

Age 22

Lived in King, Ontario with Benjamin Heaslip (head of house – father, age 66), Philadelphia Heaslip (mother, age 57), Joseph Heaslip (brother, age 32), Benjamin Heaslip (brother, age 28), Alice Heaslip (sister, age 27), Merab Heaslip (sister, age 26), Amos Heaslip (brother, age 23), Philadelphia Heaslip (sister, 20 years), Elwood Heaslip (brother, age 18), Harlena Heaslip (sister, age 13) and Georgina Heaslip (sister, age 11).

Jun 14, 1899

Age 30

Married Sarah Jane Gorman (age 27).

1911 Census

Age 42

Lived in Nipissing, Ontario with Merab Heaslip (sister, age 46) and Phila Heaslip (daughter, age 9).

MILITARY SERVICE

Feb 17, 1916

Attested to the 159th Battalion, Canadian Over-seas Expeditionary Force

**Attestation
Paper**

- **Number:** 648407
- **Present address:** Timiskaming, Ontario
- **Next of kin given:** Miss Phila Heaslip (Daughter) in Timiskaming, Ontario
- **Trade or calling:** Steam-fitter
- **Married:** No
- **Previous military experience:** Yes – 97th Regiment
- **Religion:** Methodist
- **Physical attributes:**
 - **Age:** 43 years, 4 months
 - **Height:** 5'10"
 - **Complexion:** Fair
 - **Eyes:** Blue
 - **Hair:** Brown

Nov 11, 1916

Age 48

Arrived in England on the S.S. Empress.

Mar 13, 1917

Age 48

Diagnosed with rheumatism.

Jan 7, 1918

Age 49

Diagnosed with chronic arthritis.

Nov 11, 1918

Age 50

Private Thomas Heaslip was discharged because he was physically unfit.

AFTER THE WAR

1921 Census

Age 52

Lived in Englehart, Ontario. He was a widower but the date of Sarah Jane (Gorman) Heaslip's death is not known. He worked as a farmer.

Oct 2, 1942

Age 73

Thomas died in hospital at Kirkland Lake. He had been ill for about a week before his death. He is buried at the Englehart Cemetery in Timiskaming, Ontario.

IN THE NEWS

Death Announcement

The Newmarket Era and Express

Thursday, October 8th, 1942

NEWMARKET FAMILY HELPED OPEN NORTH

A pioneer citizen of the north country, who went to Temiskaming before the railway, more than 40 years ago, and a member of a family which gave its name to one of the earlier communities of the district, Thomas Gordon Heaslip died last Friday in hospital at Kirkland Lake. Mr. Heaslip had been ill for about a week before his death, which followed an operation. He would have been 74 on Saturday.

The late Mr. Heaslip had been a resident of northern Ontario since 1901, broken only by service overseas in the last war. He was one of a Newmarket family of eight brothers and five sisters. Six of the brothers went up the White River in the early days of the present century. Thomas Heaslip settled first at Tomstown, shortly afterwards moving to what is now Heaslip, and while that remained home to him for years, he had been engaged in different enterprises in various parts of Temiskaming.

Mr. Heaslip was in Cobalt in its younger life, being employed for a time at the old Hudson Bay mine there. He had worked also in the Gowganda mining camp and had prospected in a number of the mineral areas of Temiskaming, including Kirkland Lake. Later on, he was engaged at the Wright-Hargreaves mine, but for the past seven or eight years had been living retired in Kirkland Lake. He spent three winters in Florida in recent years.

During the last war, Mr. Heaslip enlisted with the 159th battalion as a member of the band of that unit and, on proceeding to England, was transferred to the 42nd reserve. He had been a member of the Masonic order for 55 years, having been initiated into Occident lodge, Toronto, in 1887. He was also an Orangeman and a charter member of the Kirkland Lake post, No. 87, of the Canadian Legion.

Mr. Heaslip was born on a farm near Newmarket on Oct. 10, 1868, and spent part of his earlier life in Toronto. His father, Benjamin Heaslip, came from county Cavan in Ireland, and his mother, Philadelphia Lloyd, was of United Empire Loyalist stock. He was

married to the former Mary Jane Gorman, who also came from county Cavan, and who predeceased him about 30 years ago.

Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. Fred W. Widdifield of New Liskeard, and four brothers and two sisters. The brothers are Elmer and Joseph of Englehart, Elwood in Heaslip and Benjamin of Newmarket. The sisters are Miss Merab Heaslip of Heaslip and Mrs. H. Sandford of Toronto.

The funeral was held on Sunday, twentieth anniversary of the fire disaster of Oct. 4, 1922, in which a number of Mr. Heaslip's relatives lost their lives. Burial was made in the Englehart cemetery. In the morning a service was conducted at the Symington funeral chapel in Kirkland Lake. Rev. E. E. Long, minister of Trinity United church, officiated, and comrades of the Canadian Legion post acted as pallbearers.

The casket, draped with the Union Jack, was taken to Englehart, where another service was held in the United church, conducted by Rev. J. Harrower, the minister. At the graveside the last rites of the Masonic order were observed. Bro. James Paterson, a past master of the lodge, was in charge of these ceremonies.